CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1981

VOLUME 4

CONTENTS

		Page
INTRODUCTION		v
EXPLANATORY NOTES		vi
COMMENTARY		ix
TABLES		
1.	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status, sex and marital status ...	3
2A.	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status, age group and marital status	4
2B.	Males aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status, age group and marital status ...	6
2C.	Females aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status, age group and marital status	8
3.	Rates of participation in the Labour Force for persons classified by age group, sex and marital status	10
4.	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status and sex in each Planning Region	11
5.	Persons aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status and sex in each Province, County and County Borough	13
6.	Persons, males and females, at work classified by industrial group with numbers in each group per 10,000 in all industries	20
7.	Persons, males and females, at work classified by industry in 1971 and 1981	21
8A.	Persons at work in each Province, County and County Borough classified by industrial group ...	24
8B.	Males at work in each Province, County and County Borough classified by industrial group ...	25
8C.	Females at work in each Province, County and County Borough classified by industrial group ...	26
9A.	Persons at work in each Planning Region classified by industrial group	27
9B.	Males at work in each Planning Region classified by industrial group	29
9C.	Females at work in each Planning Region classified by industrial group	31
10.	Males and females at work in each Province, County, County Borough and Planning Region classified by industry	33
11.	Males and females at work enumerated in Urban and Rural districts, in towns with legally defined boundaries, in environs of towns with legally defined boundaries and in towns without legally defined boundaries having 1,500 inhabitants or more in 1981 classified by industrial group ...	64
12.	Males and females at work in each city or town (including suburbs or environs, if any) having a population of 1,500 or over classified by industrial group	86

TABLES		Page
13A.	Males at work in each industrial group classified by major occupational group in 1971 and 1981 ...	117
13B.	Females at work in each industrial group classified by major occupational group in 1971 and 1981	118
14.	Males and females at work in each industry, distinguishing the principal occupations within that industry	119
15A.	Males at work in each industrial group classified by age group	169
15B.	Females at work in each industrial group classified by age group	170
16A.	Males classified by employment status and age group	172
16B.	Males in each age group as a percentage of the total in each employment status	172
16C.	Males in each employment status as a percentage of the total labour force in each age group ...	172
17A.	Females classified by employment status and age group	173
17B.	Females in each age group as a percentage of the total in each employment status ...	173
17C.	Females in each employment status as a percentage of the total labour force in each age group ...	173
18A.	Males in each employment status classified by age group and marital status	174
18B.	Females in each employment status classified by age group and marital status	176
19A.	Persons at work classified by industrial group and employment status showing also the numbers out of work in each industrial group	178
19B.	Males at work classified by industrial group and employment status showing also the numbers out of work in each industrial group	179
19C.	Females at work classified by industrial group and employment status showing also the numbers out of work in each industrial group	180
20.	Males and females classified by industry and employment status showing also the numbers out of work in each industry	182
21A.	The male labour force in each Province, County, County Borough and Planning Region classifying those at work by employment status	188
21B.	The female labour force in each Province, County, County Borough and Planning Region classifying those at work by employment status	189
22A.	Males unemployed, having lost or given up previous job, classified by industrial group and age group	190
22B.	Females unemployed, having lost or given up previous job, classified by industrial group and age group	191

APPENDICES		
A	Detailed level of industries used in the 1981 Census classification and shown in Tables 7; 10; 14 and 20	194
B	Intermediate level of industry groups shown in Tables 6; 9A - 9C; 12; 13A - 13B; 15A - 15B; 19A - 19C and 22A - 22B	196
C	Broad level of industry groups shown in Tables 8A - 8C and 11	197
D	Comparison between the 1971 and 1981 industry coding systems	198
E	Detailed level of occupations used in the 1981 Census classification	202
F	Alphabetical list of cities or towns (including suburbs or environs if any) shown in Table 12 ...	204
G	The Planning Regions	206
H	List of Bulletins containing provisional results already published	207

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1981

INTRODUCTION

A Census of Population was taken on the night of the 5th April, 1981 in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order 1981 (S.I. No. 60 of 1981) made by the Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by sub-section 1 of section 16 of the Statistics Act 1926 and the Statistics Acts 1926 and 1946 (Transfer of Ministerial Functions) Order 1949 (S.I. No. 142 of 1949), and the Statistics (Delegations of Powers and Duties) Order 1980 (S.I. No. 36 of 1980).

The following particulars were collected in respect of each individual:- (i) name, (ii) sex, (iii) relationship to head of household, (iv) date of birth, (v) marital status, (vi) place of birth, (vii) religion, (viii) ability to speak Irish, (ix) date of marriage and number of children (for married women only), (x) usual residence, (xi) usual residence one year prior to Census date, (xii) means of travel and distance travelled to work or school; and for persons aged 15 years or over, (xiii) present economic status, (xiv) principal occupation, (xv) employment status, (xvi) name of employer and nature of employer's business, (xvii) address of place of work or school, (xviii) area and rateable valuation of agricultural holdings, (xix) age at which full-time education ended and number of years' attendance at school or college (for persons who had ceased their full-time education), (xx) scientific or technological qualifications held and fields of science concerned. In addition the following information was collected in respect of each private household:- (i) nature of occupancy of the dwelling (rented, owner occupied etc.), (ii) rent of dwelling, (iii) rooms occupied, (iv) year dwelling was built, (v) type of water supply, (vi) availability of bath or shower, (vii) type of sanitary facilities and (viii) principal fuel used to heat the dwelling and availability of central heating.

COVERAGE OF THE CENSUS

The Census figures relate to the de facto population, that is to say the population recorded for each area represents the total of all persons present within its boundaries on the night of Sunday, 5 April, 1981, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 6 April, 1981, not having been enumerated elsewhere; persons on board ships in port are included with the population of adjacent areas. The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night as well as those in residence, while usual residents temporarily absent from the State are excluded. The date of the Census was, however, chosen to coincide with a period when passenger movements were at a minimum and consequently the figures closely approximate to those for the normally resident population. Members of the Defence Forces who, on Census night, were serving abroad with the United Nations were excluded from the enumeration.

PUBLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF RESULTS

Volume 1 - Population of District Electoral Divisions, Towns and larger units of Area (Pl. 985) was published in September, 1982. Volume 2 - Ages and Marital Status classified by Areas (Pl. 2561) was published in September, 1984. Volume 3 - Household Composition and Family Units (Pl. 3084) was published in April, 1985. Two reports based on the processing of a five per cent sample of the Census returns have also been published; the first in March, 1983 (Pl. 1446) related to Age, Marital Status and Labour Force; the second in December, 1983 (Pl. 1933) related to characteristics of Housing and Households. A series of Bulletins has been published giving provisional results for the State and for each Planning Region, County and County Borough of classifications by Age, Marital Status, Principal Economic Status, Labour Force, Travel to Work, Religion, Size and Type of Dwelling, Nature of Occupancy, Water Supply, Sanitary Facilities and Fuel used to heat the dwelling. A list of these Bulletins is included in Appendix H. A final State Bulletin published in July, 1984 (Pl. 2526) contains classifications by Place of Birth, Usual Residence, Irish Language, Travel to Work and School, Education and Household Facilities separately distinguishing between Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas.

Tabulations containing frequency counts of the population in each Urban and Rural District, each District Electoral Division or Ward, each town of 1,000 population and over and each Gaeltacht Area classified by the main variables collected in the Census (e.g. Occupation, Industry, Economic Status, Socio-Economic Group, Education, Age, Marital Status) as well as counts of Private Households classified by Housing characteristics (Number of Rooms, Age of Building, Availability of Bath, etc.) are available on computer print-out sheets and on tape. These data will be supplied, at a charge, by the Central Statistics Office.

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1981

VOLUME 4

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The present Volume contains detailed results relating to the population aged 15 years and over classified by their principal economic status and by the industry in which working. The Volume has been expanded compared with the corresponding Volume III (Industries) of the 1971 Census Report to allow for the inclusion of extra tables showing classifications by Principal Economic Status. The Volume also includes tables analysing persons at work and unemployed by age group and industry group, corresponding to information included in Volume V of the 1971 Census Report. When making comparisons with 1971 it should be borne in mind that the 1971 Census Volumes cover persons aged 14 years and over. In the 1981 Census, following the change in the school-leaving age to 15 in 1972, employment, etc. questions were asked of persons aged 15 years and over.

BASIS OF CLASSIFICATION

PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC STATUS

The Principal Economic Status was determined for persons aged fifteen years and over on the basis of a question which required a tick to be inserted opposite one of eight categories which best described the person's present economic status. The question was as follows:-

PRESENT STATUS

Indicate, by inserting ✓ in the appropriate box, the person's present principal status. Self-employed persons should insert ✓ in Box 1. Persons temporarily absent from work because of illness, holidays, etc. should insert ✓ in Box 1.

Q. 15

At work	1	Home (i.e. domestic) duties	5
Seeking regular work for first time	2	Retired	6
Unemployed	3	Unable to work owing to permanent sickness or disability	7
At school, student	4	Other (specify)	8

The notes which accompanied the question were as follows:-

(i) Self-employed persons should insert ✓ in Box 1.

(ii) Persons temporarily absent from work because of illness, holidays, etc. should insert ✓ in Box 1.

(iii) Apprentices who are in employment and who also attend Technical Schools or Colleges of Technology should insert ✓ in Box 1.

(iv) Full-time students who are in part-time employment should insert ✓ in Box 4.

It can be seen that strict guidelines relating to the nature of work performed, whether temporary or permanent, full-time or part-time were not laid down for use in reply to this question. Thus the answers supplied are based on the subjective assessment of the person completing the form.

LABOUR FORCE

The Labour Force comprises persons aged 15 years and over who are "at work", "seeking regular work for the first time" or "unemployed". This is an extension of the Labour Force definition used in previous Censuses which did not include first job seekers.

The Labour Force (and its constituent) figures shown in this Volume are directly based on the Census and differ slightly therefore from the official mid-April 1981 Labour Force estimates. The latter were derived by modifying the Census figures to take account of the differences in methodology between the Census and sample Labour Force Surveys on which the official mid-April Labour Force series is now based; for details of the modifications to the Census figures and the official mid-April estimates see pages 8 and 9 of "Labour Force Survey 1983 - First Results" (Pl. 2660).

OCCUPATION

A person's occupational classification is determined by the kind of work he performs in earning a living, irrespective of the place in which, or the purpose for which, it is performed. The nature of the Industry, Business or Service in which the person is working has no bearing upon the classification of his occupation. For example, the occupation "clerk" covers clerks employed in Manufacturing Industries, Commerce, Banking, Insurance, Public Administration, Professions and Other Services etc.

The question on the Census schedule relating to Occupation was as follows:-

OCCUPATION

If at work, state here the usual principal occupation, giving a full description.

If unemployed or retired, describe the principal occupation previously held.

For students or persons at school, state the type (Secondary, Community, Vocational, University etc.).

The notes which accompanied the question contained the slightly more elaborate formulation - "if at work, state the usual principal occupation (i.e. that by which the living is mainly earned)".

INDUSTRY

The industry in which a person is engaged is determined (whatever may be his occupation) by the main activity carried out at the local unit at which he works. If, however, the local unit is involved in some activity ancillary to another major unit (e.g. administration, storage etc.) then the persons in the ancillary unit are classified to the industry of the major unit. Thus, while the occupational classification is concerned only with the particular work performed by the individual regardless of the main activity carried on at the local unit, the industrial classification is concerned only with the ultimate purpose or end product regardless of the precise nature of the work performed by each individual. A single manufacturing concern or commercial undertaking may employ persons of many different occupations for the purpose of making a particular product or giving a particular service. Conversely, there are many cases in which particular occupations are largely confined to a single industry. For example, the majority of persons having agricultural occupations are in the Industry of Agriculture and most miners are in the Mining Industry.

It will be noted that the term "industry" as used for Census of Population purposes is not confined to Manufacturing Industry, but is regarded as being synonymous with the term "Branch of economic activity". The basis of the industrial classification is, in the case of an employee, the business or profession of his employer and in the case of a self-employed person is the nature of his own business or profession. The question on the Census Schedule from which the classifications according to Industry were derived was as follows:-

EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYER'S BUSINESS

For persons at work, if an employee, state name of employer (person, firm, company or public body) and nature of business carried on by the employer.

If self-employed, state nature of business carried on.

A farmer, or farm worker, should also state the area of land farmed.

If unemployed state name and nature of business of last employer.

The notes which accompanied the question indicated that the nature of business carried on should be described fully indicating the type of goods made or dealt with, or type of service rendered.

The next question on the Census Schedule asked persons to give the full address at which they worked. It often happened that the information on nature of employer's business entered on the Census Schedule was not sufficiently precise for the purpose of accurate classification and in many of these cases the additional information on name and address of the employer enabled the coders to identify the nature of business precisely with the aid of trade directories etc.

The list of detailed headings under which persons are classified by industry is somewhat different in 1981 than in 1971. This is because some changes were introduced to update the classification system and bringing it into closer conformity with the system used in other EEC member countries. However comparative figures for 1971 and 1981 (on the 1981 basis) are supplied in Table 7. Details of the relationship between the 1971 and 1981 Industry coding systems are also set out in Appendix D.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Each person, at work, unemployed or retired was classified by "Employment Status" to one of the following groups:-

Employer or own account worker
Assisting relative
Employee
Out of work

The question on the Census Schedule relating to "Employment Status" was as follows:-

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

If at work indicate, by inserting ✓ in the appropriate box, the person's present employment status.

If unemployed or retired indicate the person's previous employment status.

Q. 17

Self-employed, employing others	1
Self-employed, without paid employees	2
Employee	3
Assisting relative (not receiving a fixed wage or salary)	4

CLASSIFICATIONS BY MARITAL STATUS

In the 1981 Census of Population, returns on marital status were sought on the basis of "present legal status" with provision for four categories - "single", "married", "widowed" and "other status". The latter category was intended to relate only to "persons who had obtained a divorce in another country". Some 14,117 persons (5,116 males and 9,001 females) returned themselves as "other status". In this Volume, these persons are included in the "married" category in the tabulations involving classification by marital status.

CLASSIFICATION BY ADMINISTRATIVE AND CENSUS AREAS

The various administrative and Census areas for which figures are shown in this Volume were described in detail in the explanatory notes to "Census of Population of Ireland 1981, Volume I" (Pl. 985). In particular the basis for defining towns and their environs and the suburban areas of Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford were detailed.

CONTENT OF THE TABLES

This Volume has been expanded compared with the corresponding Volume III (Industries) of the 1971 Census Report to allow for the inclusion of extra tables showing classifications by Principal Economic Status. Also included is a set of tables analysing persons at work and unemployed by age group and industry group, corresponding to information included in Volume V of the 1971 Census Report. The 1971 Census Volumes cover persons aged 14 years and over. In the 1981 Census, following the change in the school leaving age to 15 in 1972, employment etc. questions were asked of persons aged 15 years and over.

Tables 1-5 deal with Present Economic Status. Cross classifications are shown by age, marital status, County and Planning Region.

Tables 6-12 deal with the numbers employed in the various industries. Table 7 gives comparative figures for 1971 for the detailed industrial headings (see also Appendix D). Table 10 shows the numbers of males and females in each detailed industry heading in each County and Planning Region. The remaining tables in this set of tables summarise the numbers engaged in industry groups of differing levels in various areas throughout the State. Table 11 gives details for Urban and Rural Districts and subdivisions of these Districts, while data is supplied in Table 12 for towns with 1,500 or more inhabitants. An alphabetical index to the cities and towns appearing in this table is contained in Appendix F.

Tables 13A-14 provide cross classifications of Industry by Occupation. Tables 13A and 13B show classifications by major occupational group for each industrial group and give comparative figures for 1971. Table 14 contains a detailed classification of males and females at work in each industry according to occupation and occupational group. In this table each occupation or occupational group having twenty or more males or females within an industry is distinguished separately.

Tables 15A and 15B show the age structure of persons at work in each industrial group.

Tables 16A to 21B concentrate mainly on Employment Status. Classifications are provided by age, industry, marital status and area.

Tables 22A and 22B are restricted to the unemployed and provide cross classification by former industry and by age group, for both males and females.

COMMENTARY

CLASSIFICATION ACCORDING TO PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC STATUS

The first five tables in this report are concerned with classification by "principal economic status" of persons aged 15 years and over.

TABLE A shows comparisons between 1971 and 1981 for the main categories.

TABLE A: PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC STATUS AND SEX - 1971 AND 1981.

Principal Economic Status	1971			1981		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
At Work	1,049,489	773,910	275,579	1,137,827	808,670	329,157
Unemployed	64,692	55,157	9,535	113,096	91,279	21,817
Looking for first regular job	11,190	6,958	4,232	20,199	12,546	7,653
Students	136,876	69,908	66,968	200,316	97,306	103,010
Home Duties	638,456	3,462	634,994	662,551	1,041	661,510
Others	146,393	110,579	35,814	265,687	183,103	82,584
TOTAL	**2,047,096**	**1,019,974**	**1,027,122**	**2,399,676**	**1,193,945**	**1,205,731**

The total population aged 15 years and over was 2,399,700 in 1981, an increase of 352,600 persons since 1971. The numbers of persons "at work" was 1,137,800, an increase of 88,300 of which 53,600 was accounted for by a rise in the numbers of females at work. The numbers of females "at work" increased, therefore, by 19 per cent during the period 1971 to 1981 compared with an increase of just 4 per cent in the numbers of males at work. There was an increase of 64,300 in the number of married females at work from 38,300 in 1971 to 102,600 in 1981, the most significant development in the ten year period. The number of single/widowed females at work fell by almost 13,500. The numbers "unemployed" increased by 75 per cent between 1971 and 1981. The residual category "others", which includes retired persons, showed the largest increase (81 per cent) over the ten year period. It should be noted, however, that the comparisons between 1971 and 1981 may be somewhat affected by the different questionnaire formats used at the two Censuses. In particular the two categories "unemployed" and "others" may be affected by this change. In 1971 the person's "present economic status" was determined by the replies given to the two questions on "occupation" and "employment status". In 1981 however, as already outlined on page vi a specific question was asked in which a tick had to be inserted in one of eight categories which was considered to describe most appropriately the "principal economic status" of persons aged 15 years and over. The category "unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability" was specifically listed in the 1981 Census and the experience with the Labour Force Survey has shown that some people who use this category would otherwise be classified as "unemployed". Consequently, it is possible that, if the 1981 procedure for establishing "principal economic status" had been used in 1971, the numbers classified as "unemployed" in the 1971 Census might have been lower than those shown in Table A while the numbers in the "others" category in Table A might have been higher.

TABLE B gives a breakdown of persons aged 15 years and over by broad age group within the main "principal economic status" categories. The category "Labour Force" used in Tables B and C comprises persons "at work", "unemployed" and those "seeking regular work for the first time", (for labour force concept see "Labour Force" on page vii).

TABLE B: PERSONS, MALES AND FEMALES AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC STATUS AND AGE GROUP - 1981.

Principal Economic Status		Age Group						
		15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	15 years and over
Labour Force	Males	207,587	235,286	177,396	141,146	111,846	39,234	912,495
	Females	157,514	85,687	41,121	35,690	28,799	9,816	358,627
	Total	365,101	320,973	218,517	176,836	140,645	49,050	1,271,122
Students	Males	95,337	1,757	180	28	3	1	97,306
	Females	101,813	954	170	66	7	-	103,010
	Total	197,150	2,711	350	94	10	1	200,316
Home Duties	Males	95	125	119	140	174	388	1,041
	Females	33,539	145,679	130,632	107,390	106,032	138,238	661,510
	Total	33,634	145,804	130,751	107,530	106,206	138,626	662,551
Others	Males	4,104	5,497	6,911	11,787	29,244	125,560	183,103
	Females	2,567	3,026	3,224	5,283	12,767	55,717	82,584
	Total	6,671	8,523	10,135	17,070	42,011	181,277	265,687
TOTAL	Males	307,123	242,665	184,606	153,101	141,267	165,183	1,193,945
	Females	295,433	235,346	175,147	148,429	147,605	203,771	1,205,731
	Total	602,556	478,011	359,753	301,530	288,872	368,954	2,399,676

It can be seen from this table that the majority of males were attached to the labour force whereas the majority of females were engaged on "home duties". The situation varies between age groups. In the "25-44 year" age group all but 3.4 per cent, the vast bulk of males, were in the labour force but in the "65 years and over" group the majority of males were to be found in the "others" category which includes retired persons. In the case of females the situation was somewhat different with the "home duties" category dominating in all age groups over 25. In 1981 there were just over 200,000 students, of whom 51.4 per cent were females. Almost 663,000 persons were engaged in "home duties", almost all of whom were females.

The contrast between the positions of males and females can be more clearly seen from TABLE C which shows the percentage of males and females aged 15 years and over classified by age group and principal economic status.

TABLE C: PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS, AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, IN EACH AGE GROUP, CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC STATUS - 1981.

Principal Economic Status		Age Group						
		15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	15 years and over
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Labour Force	Males	67.6	97.0	96.1	92.2	79.2	23.8	76.4
	Females	53.3	36.4	23.5	24.0	19.5	4.8	29.7
	Total	60.6	67.1	60.7	58.6	48.7	13.3	53.0
Students	Males	31.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1
	Females	34.5	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	-	8.5
	Total	32.7	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3
Home Duties	Males	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
	Females	11.4	61.9	74.6	72.4	71.8	67.8	54.9
	Total	5.6	30.5	36.3	35.7	36.8	37.6	27.6
Others	Males	1.3	2.3	3.7	7.7	20.7	76.0	15.3
	Females	0.9	1.3	1.8	3.6	8.6	27.3	6.8
	Total	1.1	1.8	2.8	5.7	14.5	49.1	11.1
TOTAL	Males	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Females	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

In the 25-54 year age groups more than 90 per cent of males were attached to the labour force whereas approximately 70 per cent of females were outside it, the majority being engaged on "Home Duties". The percentage of females in the labour force declined rapidly from the peak of 53.3 per cent in the 15-24 age group reflecting the effects of marriage and childbearing on women's participation in the labour force (see also Tables D and E following).

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY AGE GROUP

TABLE D shows the percentage of males and females in each age group who were in the labour force in 1961, 1971 and 1981.

TABLE D: PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH AGE GROUP AND SEX - 1961, 1971 AND 1981.

Age Group	Males			Females		
	1961	1971	1981	1961	1971	1981
	%	%	%	%	%	%
15-19 years	70.5	54.9	48.7	59.6	47.6	38.4
20-24 "	90.9	89.9	90.0	68.2	65.5	70.9
25-29 "	96.4	96.9	96.8	38.9	34.7	45.4
30-34 "	97.4	97.8	97.2	24.0	21.6	26.8
35-39 "	97.5	97.8	96.7	19.1	18.9	22.9
40-44 "	97.4	97.5	95.4	19.2	19.3	24.1
45-49 "	97.3	97.1	93.9	20.1	20.1	24.4
50-54 "	95.5	96.0	90.5	22.0	21.5	23.7
55-59 "	92.2	94.0	84.8	23.0	21.8	21.5
60-64 "	85.5	87.6	73.1	22.1	20.7	17.3
65-69 "	69.6	63.9	36.5	18.9	15.9	8.2
70-74 "	50.4	40.0	22.2	15.0	10.9	4.8
75 years and over	35.3	26.2	9.6	11.8	7.8	1.8
15-19 years	70.5	54.9	48.7	59.6	47.6	38.4
20-64 years	94.7	94.8	91.9	28.3	28.8	34.1
65 years and over	51.5	43.9	23.8	15.0	11.3	4.8
TOTAL 15 YEARS AND OVER	**85.0**	**82.0**	**76.4**	**29.7**	**28.2**	**29.7**

The percentages of males and females aged 15-19 years and 65 years and over in the labour force have declined sharply over the past twenty years. For males aged 20-49 years the percentages in the labour force changed very little while for those aged 50-64 years significant declines occurred, all in the ten years between 1971 and 1981. For females aged 20-54 years the percentages in the labour force showed quite sizeable increases between 1971 and 1981 while for the 55-64 year age groups, declines occurred which continued the trend of the previous ten year period.

In TABLE E the labour force participation rates for females aged 20-54 years are disaggregated according to marital status. For 1961 and 1971 the very small number of females "not yet at work" in these age groups were included in the "single" status for purposes of computing these percentages.

TABLE E: LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES FOR FEMALES AGED 20-54 YEARS IN EACH MARITAL STATUS CATEGORY - 1961, 1971 AND 1981.

Age Group	Single			Married*			Widowed		
	1961	1971	1981	1961	1971	1981	1961	1971	1981
20-24 years	85.0	88.3	87.9	7.7	15.2	35.2	39.4	43.8	41.3
25-29 "	79.1	88.0	91.1	5.6	10.5	26.8	40.0	47.3	39.1
30-34 "	70.1	80.1	84.7	4.2	7.2	16.8	46.5	43.0	34.8
35-39 "	64.4	75.2	79.0	4.3	6.7	15.6	49.2	46.5	35.1
40-44 "	61.9	69.9	73.5	5.2	6.8	17.0	50.2	46.7	37.0
45-54 "	56.5	64.1	65.4	6.1	7.3	15.3	45.8	41.8	35.0

**Including the "Other Status" category which was separately identified in 1981.*

Between 1961 and 1971 the most significant features were the sizeable increases in the percentage of single females in the labour force for all age groups. In this period also there were large increases in the labour force participation rates for married females aged 20-29 years and fairly modest increases for older age groups. Between 1971 and 1981 there was little change for single females aged 20-24 years and 45-54 years with modest increases for the intervening age groups. For married females however there were very significant increases for all age groups, the increases being particularly large for the 20-29 age groups. These developments are not unexpected considering the legislation enacted during the period protecting women at work - e.g. The Anti-Discrimination (Pay) Act, 1974 and The Employment Equality Act, 1977. There was a sizeable decline in the labour force participation rates for widows in all age groups.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS AT WORK BY INDUSTRIAL GROUP AND PLANNING REGION

TABLE F analyses the numbers of persons at work by planning region and by broad industrial group and shows the percentage distribution by industrial group within each Region.

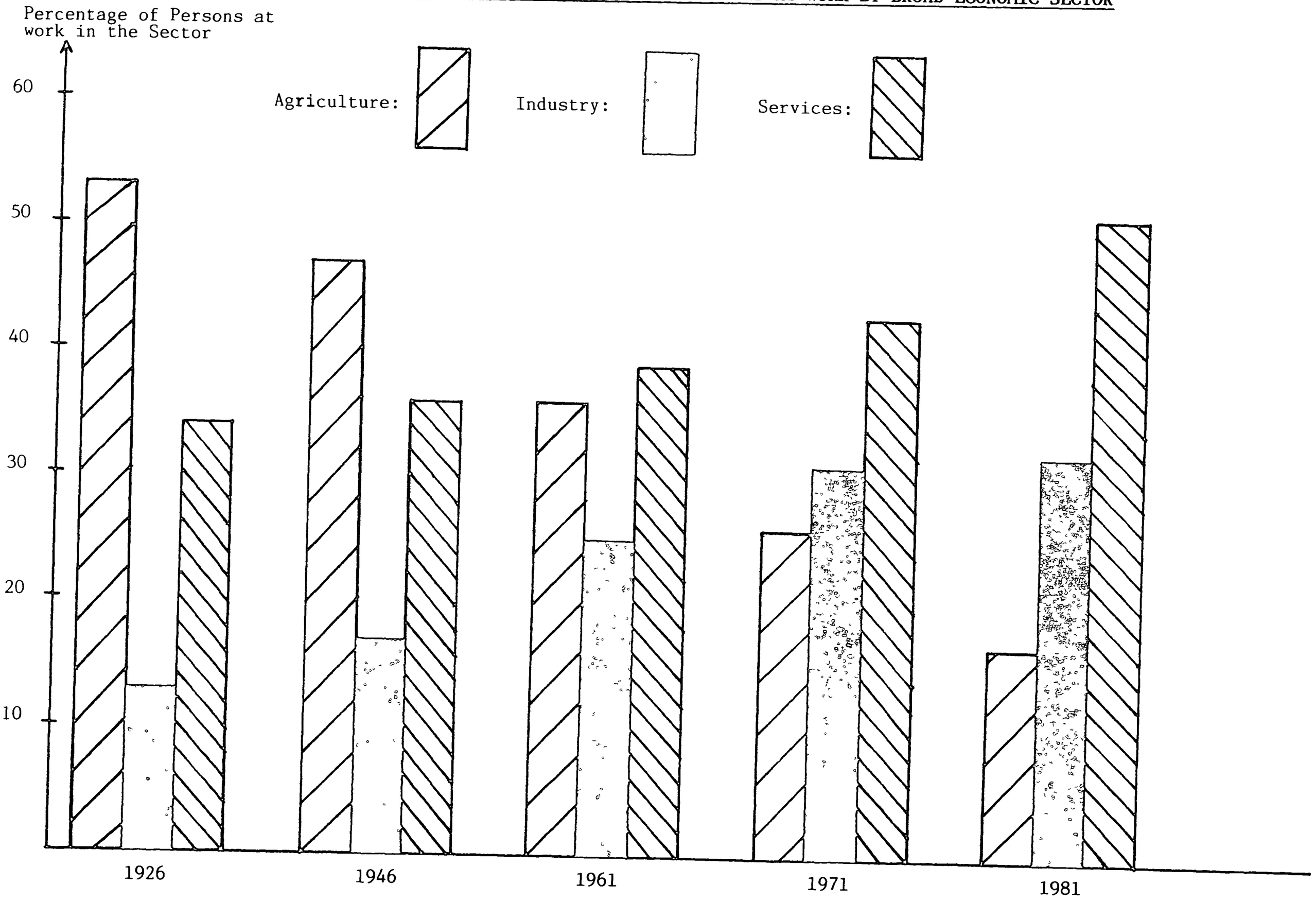
TABLE F: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS AT WORK IN EACH PLANNING REGION CLASSIFIED BY BROAD INDUSTRIAL GROUP - 1981.

Region	Total at Work	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other Production Industries (incl. Building)	Service Type Industries	Percentage distribution			
					Total at Work	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other Production Industries (incl. Building)	Service Type Industries
					%	%	%	%
East	452,647	18,375	147,432	286,840	100.0	4.1	32.6	63.4
South West	169,397	34,030	55,710	79,657	100.0	20.1	32.9	47.0
South East	117,719	27,804	40,469	49,446	100.0	23.6	34.4	42.0
North East	63,446	14,640	22,525	26,281	100.0	23.1	35.5	41.4
Mid West	100,253	22,861	33,356	44,036	100.0	22.8	33.3	43.9
Donegal	32,579	8,406	9,926	14,247	100.0	25.8	30.5	43.7
Midlands	83,335	23,960	26,156	33,219	100.0	28.8	31.4	39.9
West	90,524	29,528	23,090	37,906	100.0	32.6	25.5	41.9
North West	27,927	8,951	7,224	11,752	100.0	32.1	25.9	42.1
TOTAL	**1,137,827**	**188,555**	**365,888**	**583,384**	**100.0**	**16.6**	**32.2**	**51.3**

The dominance of the Eastern Region in sectors outside of Agriculture is very evident from this table. Almost half of all persons at work in the Service Type Industries and over 40 per cent of those in Production Industries were enumerated in the Eastern Region. The Western Region had the largest percentage of persons employed in Agriculture (32.6 per cent) and the smallest percentage of persons (25.5 per cent) employed in Production Industries.

The declining numbers at work in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing is also evident with some 188,600 persons at work being engaged in this sector in 1981 compared to 365,900 in Production Industries and 583,400 in Services, which employed more than any other sector. The changing importance over time of the three broad sectors of economic activity is illustrated in Figure 1 following. The figure shows the percentage distribution of persons at work by broad economic sector for certain Censuses since 1926, and the diminishing importance of Agriculture in terms of the numbers at work is clearly evident. The growth of the Services Section, particularly since 1961 is also evident.

FIG 1 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS AT WORK BY BROAD ECONOMIC SECTOR



CHANGES OVER THE PERIOD 1971-1981 IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS AT WORK IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

TABLE G shows the changes which took place between 1971 and 1981 in the numbers at work in the main industrial groups. It should be noted that the increase in the total number of persons at work (83,000) shown in Tables G, H, I and J is somewhat smaller than that derived from Table A. This is because persons aged 14 years who were classified as "at work" in 1971 have been included when deriving the changes for these tables as a breakdown of the numbers of those persons by main industrial sector or employment status was not available for 1971. The total number of such persons (5,350) was excluded in Table A.

TABLE G: ACTUAL AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE 1971-1981 IN THE NUMBER AT WORK IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.

Industrial Group	Actual Change (000)			Percentage Change		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
				%	%	%
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHING	- 84.5	- 71.8	- 12.7	- 31.0	- 29.0	- 49.9
MINING, QUARRYING & TURF PRODUCTION	+ 0.7	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 6.7	+ 6.1	+ 27.7
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	+ 20.4	+ 22.0	- 1.6	+ 9.4	+ 14.4	- 2.4
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	+ 1.7	+ 2.9	- 1.2	+ 3.1	+ 7.0	- 8.7
Textiles, Clothing, Footwear and Leather	- 15.6	- 5.3	- 10.3	- 28.7	- 22.5	- 33.4
Wood and Wood Products	+ 2.4	+ 2.6	- 0.3	+ 18.8	+ 23.1	- 19.8
Paper, Paper Products, Printing and Publishing	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	- 0.0	+ 2.4	+ 3.6	- 0.3
Chemical, Rubber and Plastic Products	+ 4.4	+ 3.9	+ 0.5	+ 29.0	+ 34.2	+ 13.8
Glass, Pottery and Cement	+ 4.5	+ 3.4	+ 1.1	+ 39.1	+ 33.4	+ 83.4
Metals, Metal Products and Machinery	+ 23.8	+ 15.9	+ 8.0	+ 70.8	+ 59.7	+ 112.8
Other Manufacturing (incl. Transport Equipment)	- 1.3	- 1.8	+ 0.6	- 7.2	- 11.8	+ 25.1
ELECTRICITY, GAS & WATER SUPPLY	+ 0.3	- 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.9	- 0.9	+ 37.0
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION	+ 17.7	+ 16.3	+ 1.4	+ 20.9	+ 19.6	+ 82.3
COMMERCE	+ 21.9	+ 12.9	+ 9.0	+ 15.2	+ 13.2	+ 19.5
INSURANCE, FINANCE & BUSINESS SERVICES	+ 17.9	+ 7.2	+ 10.8	+ 74.7	+ 49.9	+ 112.0
TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATION & STORAGE	+ 9.2	+ 5.4	+ 3.8	+ 15.2	+ 10.7	+ 39.5
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & DEFENCE	+ 20.5	+ 11.4	+ 9.1	+ 42.0	+ 30.7	+ 78.6
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	+ 53.2	+ 20.5	+ 32.7	+ 48.8	+ 46.0	+ 50.8
PERSONAL SERVICES	- 1.3	+ 2.1	- 3.4	- 2.4	+ 12.4	- 8.9
OTHER INDUSTRIES OR INDUSTRY NOT STATED	+ 6.9	+ 5.7	+ 1.3	+ 48.8	+ 64.2	+ 23.8
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	+ 83.0	+ 32.2	+ 50.8	+ 7.9	+ 4.1	+ 18.3

It can be seen from Table G that the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Sector suffered the largest decline, almost one in three, in the numbers of persons at work during the ten year period 1971-1981. A large decline of almost 29 per cent was also registered in the Textiles, Clothing, Footwear and Leather group of industries.

In contrast, however, there have been very large increases in the numbers employed in several other industrial sectors. The numbers employed in Insurance, Finance and Business Services increased by almost 75 per cent in the ten years from 1971 to 1981 while a similar increase (71 per cent) was recorded in the Metals, Metal Products and Machinery group of industries. Large increases were also recorded in the Professional Services (49 per cent) and in Public Administration and Defence (42 per cent).

It should be noted that in relation to the residual group "Other Industries or Industry Not Stated", the increase was due almost entirely to the large rise (from 2,900 to 9,400) in the number at work for whom industry was not stated.

TABLE H shows the change in the number at work between 1971 and 1981 in each of the main industrial sectors in each Planning Region.

TABLE H: ACTUAL AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE 1971-1981 IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS AT WORK CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL GROUP AND PLANNING REGION.

Region	Actual Change (000)				Percentage Change			
	Total at Work	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other Production Industries (incl. Building)	Service Type Industries	Total at Work	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other Production Industries (incl. Building)	Service Type Industries
					%	%	%	%
East	+ 64.0	- 5.8	- 2.6	+ 72.4	+ 16.5	- 24.0	- 1.7	+ 33.8
South West	+ 8.5	- 13.0	+ 6.6	+ 14.9	+ 5.3	- 27.6	+ 13.4	+ 23.0
South East	+ 6.1	- 9.5	+ 8.7	+ 6.9	+ 5.4	- 25.5	+ 27.5	+ 16.2
North East	- 1.2	- 6.6	+ 0.7	+ 4.6	- 1.9	- 31.0	+ 3.3	+ 21.4
Mid West	+ 7.2	- 9.2	+ 7.6	+ 8.9	+ 7.7	- 28.7	+ 29.3	+ 25.2
Donegal	- 3.2	- 6.7	+ 1.2	+ 2.4	- 8.9	- 44.5	+ 13.2	+ 20.3
Midlands	+ 2.6	- 11.0	+ 7.0	+ 6.5	+ 3.2	- 31.4	+ 36.8	+ 24.4
West	- 0.1	- 17.3	+ 7.8	+ 9.3	- 0.2	- 36.9	+ 51.2	+ 32.5
North West	- 0.9	- 5.5	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	- 3.1	- 38.0	+ 39.1	+ 28.1
TOTAL	**+ 83.0**	**- 84.5**	**+ 39.0**	**+ 128.5**	**+ 7.9**	**- 31.0**	**+ 11.9**	**+ 28.2**

The increase of 16.5 per cent in the numbers at work in the Eastern Region was, by far, the greatest increase in any Region while, on the other hand, the decrease of 9 per cent in the numbers at work in Donegal represented the largest decline. The numbers at work in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing decreased in every Region, with a very large decrease of almost 45 per cent in Donegal. The Production Industries (including Building and Construction) showed an overall increase of 11.9 per cent in the numbers at work. The Eastern Region was the only Region in which a decline took place in the numbers at work in the Production Industries. The Western Region recorded the largest increase, of more than 50 per cent, in this sector. There were also sizeable increases in the North Western, Mid Western, South Eastern and Midlands Regions.

The Service Type Industries showed the greatest growth in the numbers at work in the ten year period 1971 to 1981. The increase here of some 128,000 persons was more than three times the size of the increase in the Production Industries and exceeded the decrease in the numbers at work in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing by more than 40,000 persons. More than half of the total increase (72,000 persons) in the Services Industries sector was concentrated in the Eastern Region. All Regions showed an increase in the numbers at work in this sector with the West and North West Regions showing the largest percentage increases outside the Eastern Region.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Some 877,000 or more than 77 per cent of persons at work were classified as Employees. Employers and Own Account workers accounted for almost 232,000 persons or a further 20 per cent while Assisting Relatives numbered less than 29,000 and comprised only 2.5 per cent of persons at work.

TABLE I classifies persons, males and females at work in 1981 by employment status with comparative information for 1971. Again it must be pointed out that the 1971 figures include 5,350 persons aged 14 years.

TABLE I: EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN 1981 OF PERSONS, MALES AND FEMALES WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1971.

Employment Status	1971			1981		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Employer and Own Account	258,903	226,929	31,974	231,705	209,532	22,173
Assisting Relative	58,913	50,823	8,090	28,698	23,263	5,435
Employee	737,023	498,755	238,268	877,424	575,875	301,549
TOTAL AT WORK	**1,054,839**	**776,507**	**278,332**	**1,137,827**	**808,670**	**329,157**

It can be seen that there was a sharp decline of more than 30,000 persons in the numbers at work classified as Assisting Relatives but as can be seen from Table J following this was almost totally accounted for by the decrease in the numbers of such persons at work in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing. The dwindling numbers at work in Agriculture also gave rise to a significant decrease in the numbers of Employers and Own Account workers. However, the number of these workers increased by 21 per cent in the sectors outside of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing . This increase was largely due to an increase in the numbers of such workers in the Building and Construction and the Professional Services sectors, respectively. The Employee category accounted for the largest increase in the numbers at work. Most sectors of industry recorded an increase with particularly large increases being recorded in the Services Sector such as Insurance and Finance , Public Administration and Defence , Education , Health , etc.

TABLE J: ACTUAL AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE 1971-1981 IN THE NUMBER AT WORK IN EACH EMPLOYMENT STATUS CATEGORY.

Employment Status	Actual Change (000)			Percentage Change		
	All Industries	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other Industries	All Industries	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Other Industries
				%	%	%
Employer and Own Account	- 27.2	- 42.8	+ 15.6	- 10.5	- 23.2	+ 21.0
Assisting Relative	- 30.2	- 28.8	- 1.4	- 51.3	- 54.2	- 24.1
Employee	+ 140.4	- 12.9	+ 153.3	+ 19.0	- 36.2	+ 21.9
TOTAL AT WORK	**+ 83.0**	**- 84.5**	**+ 167.5**	**+ 7.9**	**- 31.0**	**+ 21.4**